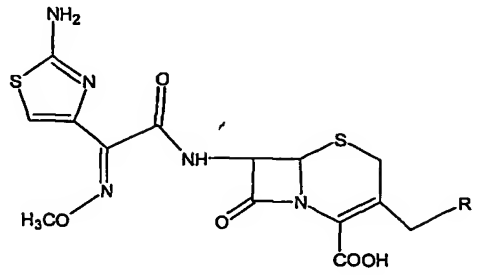
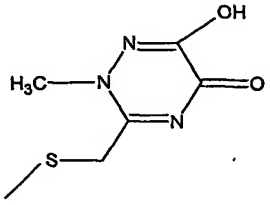
We Claim:

1. A process for the preparation of a compound of Formula VI, or a salt thereof,

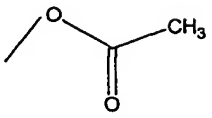


**Formula VI**

wherein R represents,

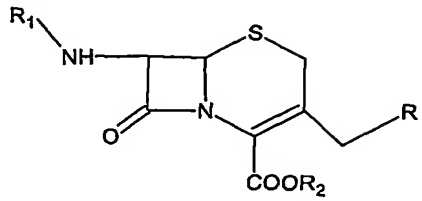


or



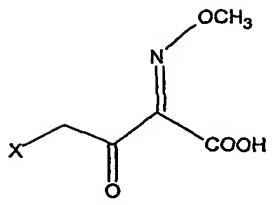
the process comprising:

(i) reacting a compound of Formula VII,



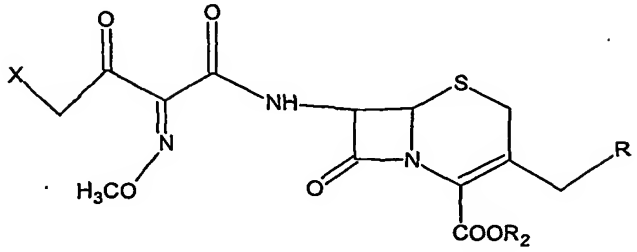
**Formula VII**

wherein $R_1$ represents hydrogen or a silyl group, $R_2$ represents a silyl group or $COOR_2$ represents a carboxylic acid salt, and R is as defined above, with a compound of Formula IV, or its reactive acid derivative,




**Formula IV**

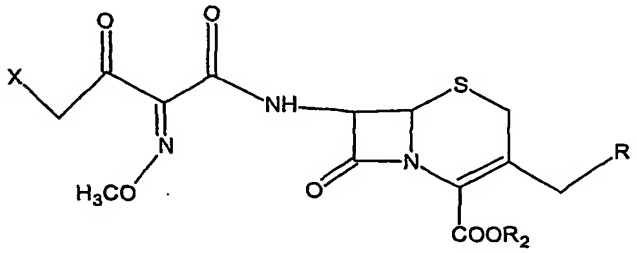
wherein X represents halogen, to obtain a compound of Formula VIII,




**Formula VIII**

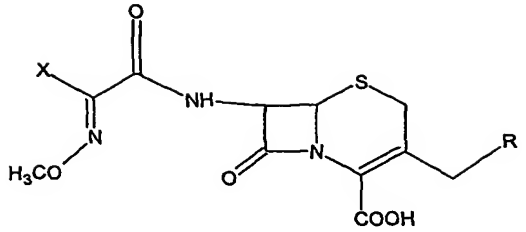
wherein X, R and $R_2$ are as defined above,

(ii) desilylating or acidifying the compound of Formula VIII




**Formula VIII**

to obtain a compound of formula V,




**Formula V**

(iii) reacting the compound of Formula V, with thiourea in aqueous medium in the presence of a weak base, and

(iv) isolating the compound of Formula VI, or a salt thereof.

2. The process of claim 1, wherein $R_1$ and $R_2$ represent trimethylsilyl in the compound of Formula VII.

3. The process of claim 1, wherein X represents chloro, bromo, or iodo in the compound of Formula IV.

4. The process of claim 1, wherein the reactive derivative of Formula IV is acid chloride.

5. The process of claim 1, wherein the aqueous medium comprises one or more of solvents.

6. The process of claim 5, wherein the solvent comprises one or more of methanol, ethanol, isopropanol, acetone, tetrahydrofuran, acetonitrile, dimethylformamide, water, or a mixture thereof.

7. The process of claim 1, wherein the aqueous medium comprises water.

8. The process of claim 1, wherein the weak base comprises one or both of sodium acetate and sodium bicarbonate.

9. The process of claim 1 wherein in step (iii), the compound of Formula V is added to an aqueous solution of sodium acetate or sodium bicarbonate at a temperature of from about 0°C to about 15°C.

10. The process of claim 1 wherein in step (iii), the thiourea is added at a temperature of from about 0°C to about 25°C.

11. The process of claim 1, wherein the reaction of step (iii) is performed at a temperature of from about 10°C to about 30°C.

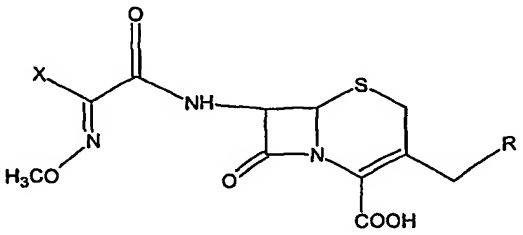
12. The process of claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula VI is isolated at a pH of about 2.5 to 3.0.

13. The process of claim 1, further comprising drying of the product obtained.

14. The process of claim 1, further comprising forming the product obtained into a finished dosage form.

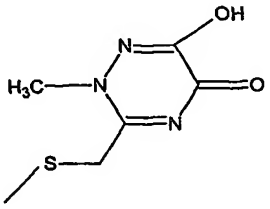
15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of formula VI, or a salt thereof obtained by the process of claim 1; and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers or diluents.

16. A process for the preparation of a compound of Formula V,

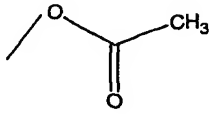


**Formula V**

wherein R represents,

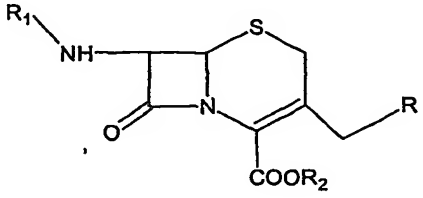


or



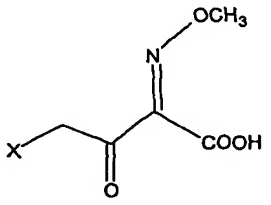
and X represents halogen, the process comprising:

(i) reacting a compound of Formula VII,



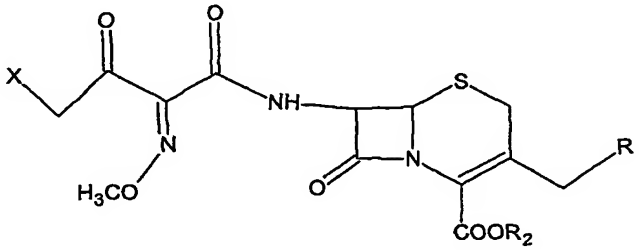
**Formula VII**

wherein $R_1$ represents hydrogen or a silyl group, $R_2$ represents a silyl group or $COOR_2$ represents a carboxylic acid salt, and R is as defined above, with a compound of Formula IV, or its reactive acid derivative,




**Formula IV**

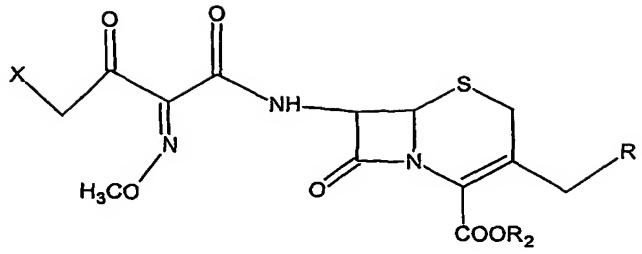
wherein X is as defined above, to obtain a compound of Formula VIII,




**Formula VIII**

wherein X, R and $R_2$ are as defined above,

(ii) desilylating or acidifying the compound of Formula VIII




**Formula VIII**

to obtain a compound of formula V.

17. The process of claim 16, wherein $R_1$ and $R_2$ represent trimethylsilyl in the compound of Formula VII.

18. The process of claim 16, wherein X represents chloro, bromo or iodo in the compound of Formula IV.

19. The process of claim 16, wherein the reactive derivative of Formula IV is acid chloride.

20. The process of claim 16, further comprising drying of the product obtained.